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SUBJECT: JOINT WEEKA NO. 42

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR DATE 2/23/83
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ACTION ASSIGNED TO:		ACTION TAKEN	
NAME OF OFFICER & OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE OF ACTION	DIRECTIONS TO RM/R	

EXTERNAL - POLITICAL

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1. International Implications of Khrushchev's October 17 Report to Party Congress. Khrushchev's approach to foreign affairs, in his report to the Congress of his stewardship as the Central Committee's First Secretary, followed guide lines previously established in his January 6, 1961 speech and was conditioned by the need for a peaceful perspective to warrant his tabling a 20-year domestic program. The most dramatic of his statements, in the foreign policy field, were his announcement of the probable testing of a 50-megaton nuclear bomb, the provisional removal of the December 31, 1961 deadline for signing a German peace treaty, and his bringing the intra-bloc ideological dispute out into the open, at least insofar as the Albanians are concerned.

The underlying theme of the speech seemed to be that war can be prevented because the USSR is so powerful that it can inflict unacceptable damage to any enemy. Khrushchev included the caveat that as long as imperialism exists, wars, including general war, can occur, but his speech as a whole seemed to breathe confidence that this would not happen.

Khrushchev's comments on Germany left the impression that negotiations with the West are imminent and that a settlement is attainable on a mutually acceptable basis. But Khrushchev continued to insist on a peace treaty, a "free, demilitarized" West Berlin, access to which would have to be negotiated with the GDR.

Disarmament was given cursory treatment, suggesting the possibility this issue is being subordinated to a resolution of the German problem and that the Soviets are content to rest on past positions for the time being.

There were references in the speech to individual countries. Main emphasis was on further development of relations with non-committed countries. Regarding the US and its allies, Khrushchev indicated Soviet policy would continue to be one of attempting to split the network of military alliances, holding out the prospect of better bilateral Soviet relations with any country which would cut its military ties with the US.

2. Berlin/Germany. Press coverage on Berlin-Germany featured various indications from Western sources that negotiations were one step closer, thus providing a background for Khrushchev's provisional lifting of the time-limit for a peace treaty in his Party Congress report.

The President was reported by the Soviet press as saying in his October 11 press conference that his meeting with GROMYKO was a search for possible agreement but that no negotiations on Germany were held, and that further bilateral talks of this type will be continued in Moscow by Ambassador Thompson. The President's reference to the need to wait for the formation of a new FRG government to coordinate Western policy and his comment that the US is determined to meet force with force in Berlin were also mentioned.

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Brief press reports of the President's Chapel Hill speech quoted his statement that US policy must be a blend of firmness and flexibility to protect vital interests by resolute action or peaceful means as necessary.

Khrushchev's letter to British Labourite Shinwell published here on October 13 added nothing to previous Soviet public statements on Berlin but significantly mentioned no time limit for a peace treaty. Khrushchev reacted positively to the 6-point proposal of Shinwell and 58 other Labour MPs for a Germany-Berlin settlement. The main purpose of Khrushchev's letter obviously was to encourage the Labourites to use their influence to pressure the British Government into negotiations.

On October 18, the Soviet Foreign Office responsed to the US note of September 8 [redacted] B1

3. UN Reorganization. On October 12, charges were leveled at the US in a TASS New York despatch that the American UN delegation was still attempting to by-pass the Security Council in the appointment of an Acting Secretary-General, despite Mr. Stevenson's consent to work for an agreed solution on this problem. The article denied rumors allegedly spread by the US delegation that the Soviet Union was demanding a veto right for itself in the UN Secretariat. In his opening address to the 22nd Party Congress on October 17, Khrushchev made only a passing reference to the question of UN reorganization, thus bearing testimony to Soviet recognition that general world public support is lacking for his positions.

4. Africa. Taking part as guests in the 22nd Party Congress are representatives of the Democratic Party of Guinea, the Convention People's Party of Ghana, and the Union Soudanaise of Mali. In his opening remarks of welcome to the delegations at the Congress, Khrushchev grouped these three together as representatives of "national democratic" parties of independent states of Africa. Moscow may figure its efforts to involve the parties of Ghana, Guinea and Mali in the Congress will serve Soviet objectives in black Africa by stopping Yugoslav influence over these countries and by making it difficult for western countries, especially the US, to provide economic and technical assistance there.

INTERNAL - POLITICAL

5. XXII CPSU Congress. The "Congress of the Builders of Communism" opened on October 17 in the new Palace of Congresses in the Kremlin. It is obviously also the "Congress of N. S. KHRUSHCHEV."

The primary impression conveyed by the Congress and the atmosphere which has been created around it is that Khrushchev has completed the process of mastering the Party apparatus, which he began following the June 1957 Central Committee plenum and which culminated, after some fits and starts, in wholesale shifts within the apparatus beginning in December 1960.

The cult of N. S. Khrushchev took a sudden spurt on the eve of the Congress. Two new books -- "Outlines of the History of the Communist Party of the Ukraine" and "The Story of an Honorary Miner: N. S. Khrushchev in the Donbass."-- appear to be the result of an "Operation Palimpsest" on Khrushchev, the full scope of which is not yet apparent. The Embassy has, however, noted the appearance of other books, less distinctly, but none the less definitely, designed as signals that Khrushchev is the "Number One of Our Days." One of the most interesting of these, an elaborate bibliographical work entitled "The Library of V. I. LENIN in the Kremlin", attempts to establish an affinity between Khrushchev and Lenin.

In view of all this, it was no surprise that Khrushchev dominated the first two days of the Congress, with his reports in behalf of the Central Committee and on the Third Party Program, which he modestly described as the "Communist Manifesto of the contemporary epoch."

Following Khrushchev's reports, the Congress began its "debates" on them and on the report of Central Revision Commission Chairman A. F. GORKIN. Party leaders taking part in the October 19 sessions -- P. N. DEMICHEV of Moscow City, N. V. PODGORNYY of the Ukraine, I. V. SPIRIDONOV of Leningrad, K. T. MAZUROV of Byelorussia, Sh. R. RASHIDOV of Uzbekistan, and D. A. KUNAYEV of Kazakhstan -- contributed to the further development of the "personal cult of N. S. Khrushchev" with a vengeance. "The outstanding Leninist, tireless fighter for Communism": "The Leninist Central Committee of the Party, headed by Comrade N. S. Khrushchev"; "All the activity of Combade N. S. Khrushchev, his inexhaustible, bubbling energy, his truly revolutionary, Leninist approach to the solution of complex problems of theory and practice, his unbreakable link with the people, his humanity and simplicity, his ability constantly to learn from and to teach the masses, are an inspiring example for the entire Party, for every Communist"; "The Leninist Central Committee of the Party and Nikita Sergeyevich Khrushchev personally" -- so ran some of the tributes.

Side by side with these, speakers in the debate placed condemnations of the "anti-Party group," to which Khrushchev had added VOROSHILOV in his Central Committee report. Some of these condemnations were phrased in distinctly threatening terms. Podgorny, for example, dwelt upon the "intrigues and provocations" of KAGANOVICH in the Ukraine, and said that the four principal members of the "anti-Party group", MOLOTOV, Kaganovich, MALENKOV, and Voroshilov, "bore personal responsibility for many mass repressions with regard to Party, Soviet, economic, military, and Komsomol cadres."

According to Western correspondents who attended the first two days of the Congress (they were thereafter excluded), BULGANIN and A. I. KIRICHENKO are among the delegates. The presence of Kirichenko comes on the heels of the circulation of various rumors concerning him: that he had committed suicide; that he was now manager of a factory in Penza; that he is married to the sister of Nina Petrovna KHRUSHCHEVA. Kirichenko figures in "Outlines of the History of the Communist Party of the Ukraine" (which was signed to the press on August 8, 1961, and went on sale in Moscow bookstores during the second week of October), apparently in a completely normal fashion, viz., his elections to the Presidium of the Ukrainian Communist Party and as its Secretary are

recorded as they occurred. There is no mention of his fall from power in January, 1960.

Meanwhile, in the carefully prepared television coverage given to the Congress, close-ups of N. S. Khrushchev show him together with F. R. KOZLOV.

COMMENT: While it is clear that the XXII Party Congress is designed to signalize the achievement by Khrushchev of complete mastery over the Party, it is not yet clear what consequences these will have for the leadership. Some Moscow observers interpret the strong and, in some respects, threatening attacks on the "anti-Party group" as the precursors of definitive action against them, which might take the form of depriving some of them of membership in the Party. There is interest in the report that Kirichenko is among the Congress delegates and speculation as to the possibility that he may "return to the Center" in some capacity, following his exile in Rostov (or Penza). What is clear now, following the first three days of the Congress, is that the atmosphere in which it is occurring is one in which big events in the life of the Party are possible.

6. The Congress and The RSFSR Bureau. All but six of the 18 known members, presumed members, and ex-members of the CPSU Central Committee's Bureau for RSFSR Affairs (Despatch No. 18, July 7, 1961), have been elected to the official organs of the XXII Congress (Pravda, October 18). Three of the remaining six members may have been assigned other roles at the Congress, since their protocol rank is low -- that of CC Section Chiefs.

For example, P. F. LOMAKO, recently identified as the third Deputy Chairman of the Bureau (A-284, October 20, 1961), was one of the official greeters on the occasion of the arrival of the Chinese delegation, the only foreign party group to be met by Khrushchev personally. With a background of 17 years in non-ferrous metallurgy, Lomako's appointment as Bureau Deputy Chairman may indicate a broadening of the known scope of activities of this top-level CC organ that directs RSFSR Party activity and helps Khrushchev, who is its Chairman, maintain Party control in the Russian Republic.

7. Party Slogans for the 44th Anniversary of the October Revolution. On October 16, the Soviet press published the traditional list of slogans in honor of the 44th anniversary of the "Great October Socialist Revolution" (celebrated November 7). The list was published early enough to give some added stimulus to the general propaganda ballyhoo associated with the XXII Congress which opened the following day.

One of the more significant changes was the elimination of last May Day's slogan No. 46: "Hail the indestructible union of the working class and the kolkhoz peasant -- the solid and durable basis of the Soviet system." The dropping of this slogan is required by provisions of the draft CPSU Program, which proudly proclaims the end of the transitional period of the "dictatorship of the proletariat" now that class antagonisms in the USSR have allegedly vanished and a "government of the entire people" established. Since Khrushchev has already defended this new position against criticism in his CC report to the Congress, there is no doubt of its incorporation into the final draft.

This November's appeal to youth (No. 93) is identical with May's, except that one phrase is added: "always be prepared to defend our homeland!", a direct reflection of the recent vigilance campaign related to the international situation.

Other changes in this list, which is generally very similar to May's, are minor. Now construction workers are asked to build high-quality, pretty homes, schools, and other buildings, instead of just plain homes, schools, etc.

Praise for Soviet scientists is amended to include the "triumphal" space flight of TITOV (No. 84). This year, in a slogan reflecting the emphasis on democracy in the Program, the slogan addressed to the Soviets (No. 89) adds: "May Soviet socialist democracy strengthen and develop!"

Various agricultural slogans have been shifted about. A new call to "develop Kolkhoz democracy" is included (No. 75); rural mechanizers are now asked not only to introduce complex mechanisms, but also to electrify agriculture (No. 78), and workers in the Virgin Lands are asked to achieve higher productivity in the fields (No. 80). Finally, among this year's usual list of agricultural products to which particular attention must be paid, "butter" has been added (No. 74), in a reversal of earlier claims that the USSR had overtaken the US in per capita production of this commodity.

8. USSR Shoots 13 More War Criminals and Claims that US Harbors Another. On October 11, the Embassy received a Soviet note demanding extradition of an alleged war-criminal, Karl LINNAS, now said to be living on Long Island. The note, which states that Linnas directed a mass-murder operation in Estonia, was published in Pravda on October 13.

One day later, Red Star announced that 13 more "Fascist traitors" had been sentenced to be shot for membership in a special SS terroristic organ "created...with the personal permission of Hitler...for mass extermination" (A-277, October 17, 1961). Sentencing of the 13 follows the announcement that the defendants at three other war-crime trials had also been sentenced to be shot (WEEKA No. 38, Sept. 22, 1961). These reports provide the regime's propaganda mill with convenient reminders of Nazi excesses during the occupation days. These are part of the current propaganda campaign to discredit the West in general, and the Federal Republic of Germany in particular.

9. New Law May Indicate Shortage of Technicians in Soviet Armed Forces. A Soviet law providing for a two-year draft exemption for graduates of certain trade schools, railroad schools, and factory industrial-training institutions, has been repealed (A-288, October 20, 1961). Coming at this time, the action suggests that the Soviet armed forces now have been given a legal basis for priority over the needs of industry in competing for certain scarce technical personnel.

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MILITARY (ARMY)

10. [redacted]

BS

For the Charge d'Affaires ad interim:

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ARTICLE XIII

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